

# SCHOOL LIAISON LINK

Grand Forks AFB School Liaison Newsletter Volume 1, Issue 19, Nov 2012



"A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes."



*Everyone Matters*



## Parent Information Night! 5 Nov 12 - 6:00 pm

Parents Advocates for Students and Schools (PASS) along with the Grand Forks Public Schools will be hosting a parent information meeting at Twining Elementary/Middle School. Mary Adkins with Safer Tomorrows will be on hand to discuss the new Olweus Bullying Prevention Program that is being implemented in the Grand Forks public school district. She will share with parents the new procedures and what steps are being taken in the school and classrooms with the youth. Free child care will be available. Please call Laura Lininger at 701-631-0194 if this service is needed.

## School Supply Drive

**Thank you to Operation Homefront and Dollar Tree for donating school supplies to military youth in Grand Forks. Three large boxes containing, markers, pencils, erasers, highlighters, glue and much more was donated to the Grand Forks AFB also. The supplies were offered to the families who home school on base and to the First Sergeants to give out to families in need. The rest of the supplies were given to Ms. Renee Moon, social worker for the Grand Forks base schools. She will be distributing the supplies between Eielson Elementary and Twining Elementary/Middle schools for everyone to use. What a wonderful display of support from our local community!**



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## Grand Forks AFB Agencies Get Trained in Olweus Bullying Prevention Program

18 staff from the base youth center, chapel, and bus drivers attended a 2 hour training on the Olweus bullying prevention program on 24 Oct. The training is part of a base-wide effort to have all agencies that service youth share a common language when it comes to the topic of bullying. Grand Forks school district is implementing a new bullying prevention program and shared their facilitator with the base to help make this training happen. Mary Adkins, from Safer Tomorrows, conducted the training. She outlined the procedure for "on the spot" interventions for the staff as well as encouraged staff to think about how to make their environments safer to prevent bullying from happening. Other efforts underway are: post anti-bullying posters in all agencies where youth frequent, purchase bully prevention educational materials, create parent information guidance on bus usage and expectations, and hold a parent information meeting on 5 Nov (details on front page of newsletter).



## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Air Force Aid Society (AFAS):** General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program - Application for the 2013-2014 academic year will be available on or about 1 November 2012 at <http://www.afas.org/Education/ArnoldEdGrant.cfm>

**DeCA (Defense Commissary Agency):** A minimum of one \$1500 scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location where qualified applications are received. Program is open to sons and daughters of active duty, reserve/guard, or retired military commissary customers. Recipient must be enrolled or planning to enroll full-time in a four-year undergraduate college or university, accredited in the U. S. They must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 basis. Look for details in December 2012 for the 2013-2014 school year at: <http://www.militaryscholar.org/>

**DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America):** DECA members can begin their experience as early as the ninth grade by enrolling in marketing, finance, hospitality, business management, or entrepreneurship. High school students join DECA through their high school chapter. For more information on DECA scholarships go to: (<http://www.deca.org/scholarships/>). The following are some examples of scholarships available through DECA.

- Otis Spunkmeyer provides ten (10) \$1,000 scholarships awarded to DECA members who work in their school stores and sell Otis Spunkmeyer products.
- Walgreens provides four (4) \$1,000 scholarships awarded to DECA members who can show evidence of DECA activities, leadership ability, community involvement.

Other military affiliated scholarship websites are:

[www.afcrossroads.com](http://www.afcrossroads.com)

[www.military.com](http://www.military.com)

[www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

[www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org)

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## Twining Celebrates Breast Cancer Awareness Day



Twining Elementary/Middle School students and teachers donned pink ribbons and pink clothing to celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month. October 10th was designated "Pink Day" The youth had the opportunity to wear pink to school to show their support. Twining administration gave each youth a pink ribbon to wear and the students had informational meetings with their teachers to learn more about Breast Cancer. Way to go Twining!



## "Save Out Loud" Photo and Video Contest Sponsored by U.S. Department of the Treasury

The U.S. Department of the Treasury is inspiring a lifetime of good savings habits by sponsoring the **Ready.Save.Grow.** "Save Out Loud" Photo and Video Contest for students in grades K – 12. Students can submit their savings story for a chance to win a virtual classroom visit from Treasurer of the United States Rosie Rios.

### Spread the word!

Help our nation's youth get on the path toward saving by sharing details about the "Save Out Loud" Contest.

**Who:** The contest is open to students in grades K – 12 (teachers or parents may submit on behalf of students).

**What:** A creative photo or video essay about what students or their families are saving for.

**When:** The contest runs from Oct. 3 through Nov. 25, 2012.

**How:** Visit [www.facebook.com/readysavegrow](http://www.facebook.com/readysavegrow) and click on the Contest Tab.

The **Ready.Save.Grow.** campaign's [online toolkit](#) of customizable newsletter copy, social media posts and web banner makes it easy to share contest information. For more information about **Ready.Save.Grow.** and the "Save Out Loud" Contest, visit [www.treasurydirect.gov/readysavegrow](http://www.treasurydirect.gov/readysavegrow).

Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Public Debt  
TreasuryDirect is a registered mark of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.  
Ready.Save.Grow. is a service mark of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

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## Airman & Family Readiness Center Loan Locker

Are you transitioning in or out of TLF and awaiting the movers to arrive; in need of some common household and kitchen items to get by in the meantime? Stop by the Airman & Family Readiness Center and check out the Loan Locker. There you will find many common household and kitchen items for loan, free of charge! The Loan Locker is accessible Mon-Fri 7:30-4:30. For more information, contact us at 701-747-3241.



## North Dakota Youth Forward

**Youth Forward** is anything and everything that connects people ages 14-24 to a future in North Dakota. It's easy to overlook opportunities in your own state when you don't know they exist. Youth Forward works to promote jobs, entertainment, education, and more opportunities for youth looking to stay in North Dakota. Explore more career ideas for youth at: <http://ndyouthforward.com/explore-careers/>

The Youth Office at the North Dakota Department of Commerce has released a collection of nearly 50 video interviews that highlight promising North Dakota careers for young people. "Career Conversations" is a career awareness program designed to connect students, parents and educators to high-demand professions in North Dakota. The educational videos are five to ten minutes in length and available on the youth office website at [www.ndyouthforward.com](http://www.ndyouthforward.com). The videos are also posted on [www.youtube.com/ndcareerconversation](http://www.youtube.com/ndcareerconversation) and [www.teachertube.com](http://www.teachertube.com). The videos highlight careers in a number of areas including healthcare, insurance, banking, education, energy, information technology and law. The office reaches out to youth in a variety of ways, especially through social networks such as Facebook ([www.facebook.com/NDYouthForward](http://www.facebook.com/NDYouthForward)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/NDyouthforward](http://www.twitter.com/NDyouthforward)). <http://ndambassador.wordpress.com/tag/youth-forward/>

## Selective Screenings for 3 - 5 yr olds

Monthly developmental screenings are available to parents of children between the ages of 3 - 5. The purpose of the screening is to identify possible disabilities that may affect a child's school performance once they are of school age. Screening are conducted in the following areas: speech/language, cognition, general development, fine & gross motor skills, vision, and hearing.

The following are the screening dates for the rest of the 2012-13 school year.

November 21, 2012  
January 9, 2013  
March 6, 2013  
May 1, 2013

December 5, 2012  
February 6, 2013  
April 3, 2013

To make an appointment for a screening please contact Dora Elbert,  
Special Education Coordinator, Grand Forks Public Schools at 701-746-2205 ext 7108.



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## *EFMP NEWS*



### **Sensory-Friendly Showing of "Wreck-It Ralph"**

Saturday November 10th 10:30am River Cinema Theater, East Grand Forks MN  
This sensory-friendly event will provide a family outing in a safe and accepting environment. Simple adjustments like turning the sound down and leaving the lights up make a film screening sensory-friendly. Audience members are welcome to dance, sing, and walk around without judgment or scrutiny. For more information, contact Andrea Reynolds at 218-773-1390.



### **"HEART OF BEHAVIOR WORKSHOP"**

Does your child have challenging behaviors? In Grand Forks on November 3rd from 9:00-4:00 you can strengthen your understanding of how to recognize, acknowledge, and reinforce behavioral success in any situation. Crystal Ringenburg is a BCBA specializing in working with children with Autism, ADD, ADHD, Down Syndrome and those with challenging/intense behaviors. This workshop has limited attendance available so you will need to contact [Crystal@heartofbehavior.com](mailto:Crystal@heartofbehavior.com) or call 218-329-5609 to register and receive workshop details via email.

### **Exceptional Family Member Resource Toolboxes & Organizational Kits**

Have you been searching for timely, updated and relevant EFMP resource information? Have you been to the Military HOMEFRONT EFMP web site page recently? Looking for EFMP mobile information on the go? Your search just might be over! Military HOMEFRONT has a variety of informational and downloadable resource tool kits and organizational tools.

#### **[Department of Defense Special Needs Parent Tool Kit](#)**

This updated Tool Kit has comprehensive information and tools that are geared towards helping military families with special needs children navigate the maze of medical and special education services, community support, and entitlements.

#### **[EFMP Family Support Reference Guide Contents](#)**

The DoD, in close collaboration with the Services, has created the installation EFMP Family Support Reference Guide. The Guide's objective is to provide a clear understanding of the EFMP services that provide assistance to military families with special needs.